

Appln No. 10/773,198
Amdt. Dated September 15, 2006
Response to Final Office Action of July 28, 2006

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant thanks Examiner for the detailed Office Action dated July 28, 2006. In response to the issues raised, the Applicant offers the following submissions and amendments.

Amendments

Claims 1, 19 and 38 have been amended to incorporate the features of original claims 9, 28 and 45 respectively. In light of this, claims 9, 28 and 45 have been cancelled.

Accordingly the amendments do not add any new matter.

35 USC §102

Independent claims 1, 19 and 38, *inter alia*, stand rejected for lack of novelty in light of US 5,706,041 to Kubby. We submit that the amendments to claims 1, 19 and 38 distinguish the present invention from the disclosure in Kubby. Accordingly, the claims depending from independent claims 1, 19 and 38 are also novel.

35 USC §103

Claims 2, 16, 20 and 35 stand rejected as obvious in light of US 5,706,041 to Kubby in view of US 5,710,070 to Chan.

Claims 8 and 27 stand rejected as obvious in light of US 5,706,041 to Kubby in view of US 5,841,452 to Silverbrook.

Claims 10 and 29 stand rejected as obvious in light of US 5,706,041 to Kubby in view of US 6,543,879 to Feinn et al.

Claims 14 and 33 stand rejected as obvious in light of US 5,706,041 to Kubby in view of US 5,534,898 to Kashino et al.

Claims 38, 40, 42, 43, 47, 50 and 54 stand rejected as obvious in light of US 5,706,041 to Kubby in view of US 4,549,191 to Fukuchi et al.

Claims 39 and 52 stand rejected as obvious in light of US 5,706,041 to Kubby in view of US 4,549,191 to Fukuchi et al. in further view of US 5,710,070 to Chan. US 5,710,070.

Claim 44 stands rejected as obvious in light of US 5,706,041 to Kubby in view of US 4,549,191 to Fukuchi et al. in further view of US 5,841,452 to Silverbrook.

Claim 46 stands rejected as obvious in light of US 5,706,041 to Kubby in view of US 4,549,191 to Fukuchi et al. in further view of US 6,543,879 to Feinn et al.

Claim 49 stands rejected as obvious in light of US 5,706,041 to Kubby in view of US 4,549,191 to Fukuchi et al. in further view of US 5,534,898 to Kashino et al.

As discussed above, Kubby fails to anticipate all the elements of amended claims 1 and 19. Likewise Kubby and Fukuchi fail to disclose all the elements of amended claim 38.

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Accordingly, the citations do not teach all the elements of the claims depending from the independent claims.

It follows that the citations fail to support a §103 rejection of the above claims.

It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's rejections have been successfully traversed and the application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration of the application is courteously solicited.

Very respectfully,

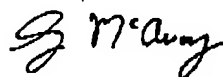
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